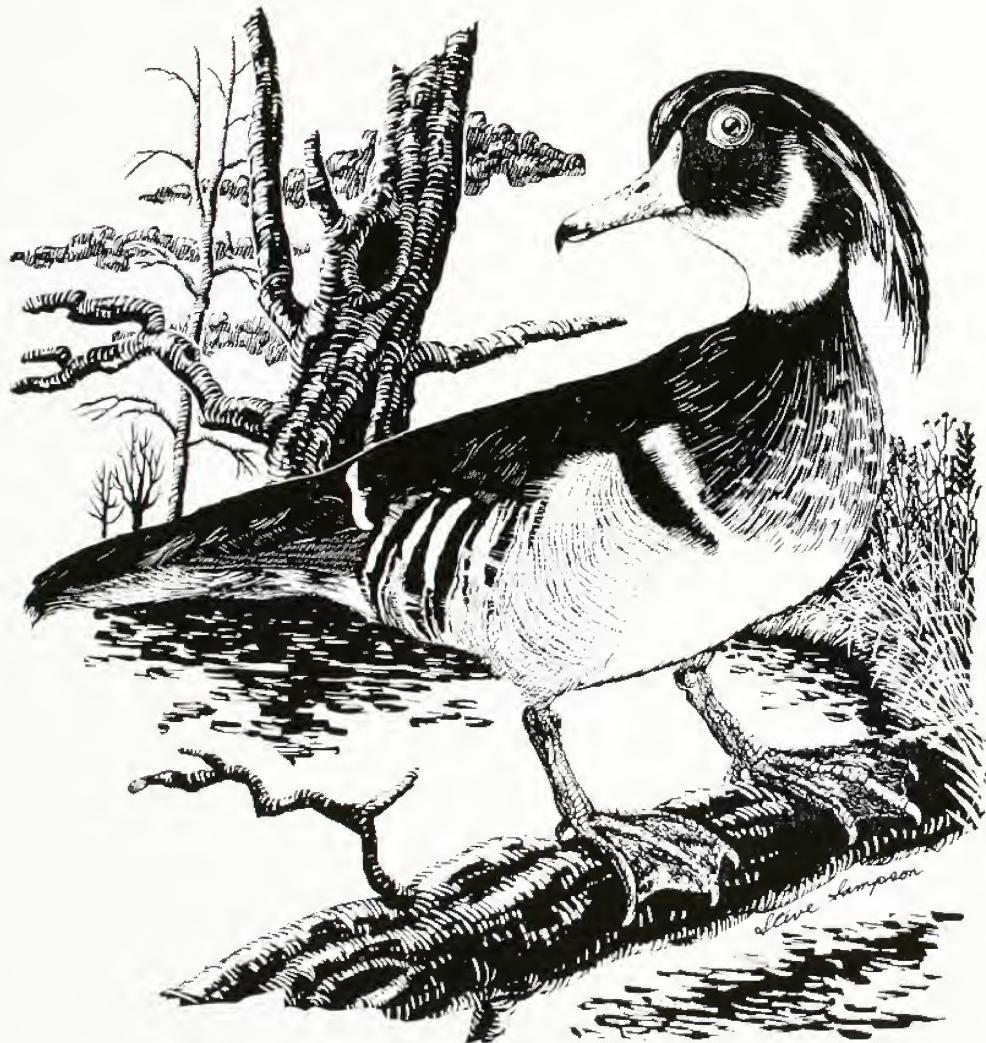


# IOWA BIRD LIFE



Vol. XXXVII No. 1

March 1967

Published by the  
IOWA ORNITHOLOGISTS' UNION

VOL. XXXVII No. 1

MARCH, 1967

PAGES 1-24

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The central design of the Union's official seal is the Eastern Goldfinch, designated State Bird of Iowa in 1933.

Publications of the Union: Mimeographed letters, 1923-1928; "The Bulletin," 1929-1930; "Iowa Bird Life," beginning 1931.

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SUBSCRIPTION RATE: \$3.00 a year. Single copies 75c each except where supply is limited to five or fewer copies, \$1.00. Subscriptions to the magazine is included in all paid memberships, of which there are five classes as follows: Life Member, \$100.00, payable in four equal installments; Contributing Member, \$10.00 a year; Supporting Member, \$5.00 a year; Regular Member, \$3.00 a year; Junior Member (under 16 years of age), \$1.00 a year.

## EDITORIAL AND PUBLICATION OFFICE

235 McCLELLAN BLVD.

DAVENPORT, IOWA 52803

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Published quarterly by the Iowa Ornithologists' Union at 235 McClellan Blvd., Davenport, Iowa, 52803. Second class postage paid at Davenport, Iowa. Subscription \$3.00, single copies 75c.

## THE 1966 CHRISTMAS BIRD CENSUS IN IOWA

Compiled by  
WOODWARD H. BROWN  
4815 Ingersoll Ave.  
DES MOINES, IOWA

The number of participants in the 1966 count was 261, or 23 more than in 1965, and the number of stations was 30 compared with 28 last year. Despite these increases this year's total Iowa list was only 109, a decrease of one from 1965. The most unusual species reported were the Boreal Chickadee at Dubuque, and the Bonaparte's Gulls at Davenport; both being "firsts". A Ferruginous Hawk at Waterloo was the first since 1954 and only the second to be recorded on these counts. The Swainson's Hawk at Winthrop was also a second occurrence having been recorded in 1961.

The mild weather and lack of snow prior to the census period might be expected to cause some over-wintering by species which are principally migratory, and Flickers, Red-headed Woodpeckers, and Blue Jays did not disappoint. The number of Flickers reported was 175% of the 1965 figure. The largest numbers last year were 32 at Aledo and 28 at Davenport, but this year Davenport saw 58, Des Moines, 43, Mercer Co., Ill. (Aledo), 57, and Muscatine, 110. Red-headed Woodpeckers were 232% and Blue Jays 153% respectively of the previous year's totals. An abundance of acorns may have been a factor also. At the same time the local weather proved no attraction to some winter visitors other than Purple Finches which were relatively numerous. Only 6 Pine Siskins were reported from 4 stations, Red Crossbills were at only 2 stations, and no Redpolls were seen.

Red-tailed Hawks were seen at 28 stations and increased from 212 last year to 283, but were considerably lower than the 1964 total of 354. Red-shouldered continue scarce with only 8 seen at 6 stations. The habitat preference of this species may be reflected by the fact that 5 of these areas are on the Mississippi River, Iowa City being the exception.

1. AKRON (6 mile circle near Bryant Farm, groves, ditches and fields). Dec. 26; 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Temp. 20-30; wind none. Sky mostly clear, ground bare. Observer (1): Eldon J. Bryant.

2. AMES (7½ mile radius from I.S.U. Campanile). Dec. 29; 7:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Temp. 6-22; wind 6 m.p.h. from NW. Sky clear in a.m., cloudy in p.m.; 7 inches of fresh snow; creeks frozen. Observers (4) in 2 parties: Richard Knight, Bill Jackson, Jim Rod, and Richard Schultz.

3. BURLINGTON (15 mile diameter circle ½ mile north of junction of highways 34 and 61; moved 2¼ miles SW—includes much of same area covered as previous year). Dec. 26; 7:20 a.m. to 4:40 p.m. Temp. 14-27; wind 1-5 m.p.h. from S. Almost clear to partly cloudy; no snow cover; river 75% frozen. Observers (15) in 6 parties: Jane Fuller, Mr. and Mrs. Jerome Jackson, Jone Kaup, Ann Klohr, Fredric Leopold, Harold Linder, John Lowther, Mrs. Ory Lowther, Peter Lowther, Jack McLane, Mr. and Mrs. Paul H. Niemann, Ted Niemann, Suzanne A. Warth.

4. CEDAR FALLS (Black Hawk, Wyth, and Washington Parks; Snag Creek, Beaver Creek, Black Hawk Creek; Goose Lake; city and prairie areas). Dec. 21; 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Temp. 26-34; wind 12 m.p.h. from NW. Cloudy; no snow, ponds frozen, streams half frozen. Observers (5) in 2 parties; Evelyn Ehlers, Martin L. Grant, Annette Haffner, Russell Hays, Florence Velie.

5. CEDAR RAPIDS (Circle with fifteen mile diameter, centering on Federal Building). Dec. 26, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Temp. 9-25; wind 5 m.p.h. from N. Clear, ground bare. Observers (15) in 6 parties: Sally Chase, Dr. R. V. Drexler, Dr. and Mrs. Karl Goellner, Henry Kyllingstad, Beryl Layton, Mrs. Lucile Liljedahl, Mrs. Forrest Millikin, Lillian Serbousek, Dr. and Mrs. Robert Vane, Robert Stewart Vane, Myra G. Willis, Mr. and Mrs. Aldrich Zobac.

6. CLINTON (7½ mi. radius centered ½ mi. S. Elk River Jct., Iowa, same as in previous years). Dec. 28; 7:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Temp. 15-23; wind 12-20 m.p.h. from NW. Overcast, snow and snow flurries, ground covered with 7-8" drifted snow, river 90% ice covered. Observers (7) in 2 parties: Fred and Maurice Lesher, John and W. M. Lonnecker, Peter Petersen, Jr. (compiler), Paul Van Nieuwenhayse, Phillip Vaughan.

Turkeys becoming more wary. Partridge flew across road in front of car south of Savanna, Ill. (WML, PP).

7. COUNCIL BLUFFS (Lake Manawa South to U.S. Highway No. 34. Covered as part Omaha Bird Club). Dec. 26; 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Temp. 11-32; wind 2-5 m.p.h. from N. No snow cover, water partially frozen. Observers (8) in 2 parties: Glenn H. LeDiolyt (only name given. ed.)

8. DAVENPORT (7½ mi. radius of toll house of Memorial Bridge, same as in previous years). Dec. 26; 2:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Temp. 8-24; wind 0-8 m.p.h. from NE. clear, ground bare, river 90% ice covered. Observers (52) in 18 parties: Mr. and Mrs. Fred Adams, Mr. and Mrs. William Atwood, Steve Aupperle, Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Blevins, Harry Carl, Allen Carlson, Mr. and Mrs. Tom Cox, Dale Dickinson, Larry Dau, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Dau, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Dau, Elton and Lois Fawks, Carol Frink, Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Frink, Mrs. Frank Gordon, Richard and Ted Greer, Mr. and Mrs. C. C. Hazard, James Hodges Sr. and Jr., Frances Johnson, David, Frank and Howard Larson, John and Mike Lonnecker, Mr. and Mrs. W. M. Lonnecker, Katherine Love, Mrs. Frank Marquis, Mr. and Mrs. Pete Petersen, Sr., Mary Lou Petersen, Peter Petersen, Jr., (compiler), Don Price, Urban Stratman, Joe Tracy, Chris and Phillip Vaughan, Norman Ward, Mr. and Mrs. Warren Wickstrom.

Details of unusual observations: Old Squaw and Bonaparte's Gulls seen through scope in excellent light (RG, TG). Osprey seen through scope, carefully observed, (F.M.). Most of Field Sparrows in a group in W. Davenport, (L.D.). Lincoln's Sparrow with Tree and Song seen at close range, (LB).

9. DECORAH (Center NE corner Sec. 24, T99N, R8W, Dec. 31; 7:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Temp. 10-33; wind 11-12 m.p.h. from SW. Cloudy, 5 in. snow cover, most waters frozen. Observers (14) in 4 parties: Mrs. Florence Albright, Vernon Bahr, R. W. Daubendiek, Duane Fenstermann, Gus Heuser, Oivind Hovde, Darwin Koenig, Mrs. Merlin Koenig, Verne Koenig, Mabel LaFleur, Mr. and Mrs. Arnold Rohm, Mr. and Mrs. Roy Schultz.

10. DES MOINES (Denman Woods, Flint Access, Crocker Woods, Fisher's Lake Wakonsa, Greenwood and Ashworth Parks, Walnut Woods, Impounding Res., Camp Dodge, Sycamore Park, Brenton's Slough, Clark's Woods. Dec. 31; 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Temp. 27-31; wind 10-15 m.p.h. from S-SW. Mostly cloudy, 7 inches snow cover, lakes and rivers mostly frozen. Observers (15) in 5 parties: Albert Berkowitz, Wm. Boller, Mrs. Dwight Brooke, Woodward Brown, John Faaborg, Oliver Graves, Lester Haskell, Mrs. Lester Haskell, David Hurd, Joe Kennedy, Richard Knight, Richard Mooney, Dr. Harold Peasley, Mrs. Harold Peasley, Mary Ellen Warters.

## CHRISTMAS BIRD CENSUS IN IOWA

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Oregon Junco a regular visitor at feeder.

11. DUBUQUE (Linwood and Mt. Calvary Cemeteries, City Island, Dubuque's Grave Area, City Harbor, John Deere, Wisconsin). Dec. 26; 7:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Temp. 5-20; wind calm. Clear with bare ground; river open in patches, frozen last 2 days. Observers (9) in 1 party: Basil Beal, Frieda and George Crossley, Joan and Howard Higley, Jr., Howard Higley III, Ival Schuster, Phyllis Shultz, Paul Skelley, Jr.

The Boreal Chickadee was at a feeder and had been reported since Thanksgiving. (This appears to be the first record for Iowa. ed.)

12. GOLDFIELD (Ten-mile radius centered on Goldfield, including Pikes Timber State Park, Elm Lake and Lake Cornelia). Jan. 1; 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Temp. 18-28; wind 14-18 m.p.h. from N. Up to 11 inches of new snow on ground, lakes frozen except small area in middle. Observers (2) in 1 party: Dean Oviatt, Dean Roosa.

13. HAWARDEN (Oak Grove Park, Rock-Sioux access, selected points along the Sioux and Rock Rivers, rural areas in SW Sioux county.) Dec. 30; 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Temp. 6-20; wind 0 m.p.h. Clear all day, rivers 98% frozen, 7 inches of snow cover. Observers (1): Ron Muilenburg.

14. IOWA CITY (15 mile circle (center near N. Liberty) including Iowa City, Lake Macbride, Coralville Reservoir, and west. Dec. 23; 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. Temp. 10-24; wind 0-10 m.p.h. from NW. Clear. Ground bare. River and lake partly frozen. Observers (9) in 2 parties: Dr. J. A. Clifton, J. A. Clifton, Sr., Seddie Cogswell, Robert Hulbary, Fred, Jim, Tom, Bob, and John Kent.

15. JEFFERSON (15 mi. circle with center on hiway No. 30, 4 miles west of Jefferson, includes Goose lake and Dunbar Slough.) Dec. 30; 7 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Temp. 12-28; wind 5 m.p.h. from SW. Clear, 8 inches of snow on ground, lakes frozen except for one tiny spot at Goose Lake River was 80% frozen. Observers (3) in 1 party: Dave Bucklin, John Faaborg, Richard Knight.

Robins had stayed at cemetery around some crab-apple trees.

Rusties and Cowbird all were in one flock.

One flock of around 200 Longspurs was seen.

16. JESUP (Cutshaw Access, Buffington Bridge, Otterville Hunting Access, Stone Quarry No. 1, Spring Creek, Amish Farmland). Dec. 31; 8:00 a.m. to 3:15 p.m. Temp. 29-32; wind 15 m.p.h. from S. Snow cover entire. Water frozen except 4 Springs. Overcast all day. Observers (4) in 2 parties: Mrs. Ronald Barnett, Miss Alice Black, Mrs. Lloyd Hewitt, Mrs. Duane Williams.

17. LAMONI (Parts of 7½ mile radius centered 2½ miles east of Lamoni. Includes country roads, farm land, farm lots, Graceland College campus, 2 feeding stations). Dec. 31; 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Temp. 25-33; wind 5 m.p.h. from South. Weather cloudy, 2 inches snow cover, water frozen. Observers (8) in 4 parties: Mrs. Dean Ballantyne, Mrs. Paul Elswick, Bill Gillaspey, Jim Gillaspey, J. Donald Gillaspey (compiler), Dr. D. T. Goode, Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Silver.

18. LEDGES STATE PARK (From Boone south through the Ledges to the Iowa State 4-H Camp—territory surrounding the state park). January 2; 8:00 a.m. to 5:15 p.m. Temp. 30-32; wind 7 m.p.h. from NW. Overcast, snow in A.M., 8-10" snow on ground, most water frozen. Observers (2) in 1 party: Dick Knight, Myron Swenson (compiler).

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1. Auk	100	1	1
2. Adee	250	1	1
3. Burdell's teal	1000	1	1
4. Cedar Pals	250	1	1
5. Cedar Waxwings	100	1	1
6. Cliffton	100	1	1
7. Common Gallinule	100	1	1
8. Daverceptor	100	1	1
9. Decoach	100	1	1
10. Desi Ruffles	100	1	1
11. Debugger	100	1	1
12. Goldfield	100	1	1
13. Harvester	100	1	1
14. Iowa City	100	1	1
15. Jefferson	100	1	1
16. Jepsup	100	1	1
17. LaMoe	100	1	1
18. Ledger	100	1	1
19. Marshlikeowl	100	1	1
20. Motoeagle	100	1	1
21. Merece G.	100	1	1
22. Muscicapidae	100	1	1
23. Ogbee	100	1	1
24. Osprey	100	1	1
25. Schenadoach	100	1	1
26. Stock City	100	1	1
27. Unison Squash	100	1	1
28. Redtail Falcon	100	1	1
29. Wictchtop	100	1	1
30. Yellow-shafted Flicker	100	1	1

## CHRISTMAS BIRD CENSUS IN IOWA

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Estimate made of numbers in flocks seen. Total flock size = 109

19. MARSHALLTOWN (Marshall County). Dec. 31; 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Temp. 25-35; wind 5 to 10 m.p.h. Overcast. Observers (14) in 4 parties: Mrs. Bruce Cribbs, Mr. and Mrs. Norman Eige, Orval Grimes, Mrs. L. R. Grimes, Mrs. John King, Miss Ruth Knights, Mr. and Mrs. Lester Lawrence, Mr. and Mrs. James Maish, Mr. and Mrs. Homer Rinehart, Miss Ruth Zorn.

20. McGREGOR (McGregor, Pikes Peak State Park, Prairie du Chien, Lock and Dam 9; Farmland 50%; Upland Forest 20%, Bottomland Forest 15%, River 10%, Urban 5%). Dec. 24; 7:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Temp. 15-27; wind 0-8 m.p.h. from NW. Mostly clear, ground covered by  $\frac{1}{4}$ - $\frac{1}{2}$ " snow, river 90% ice covered. Observer: Peter C. Petersen, Jr.

21. MERCER COUNTY, ILL. (Western Mercer Co., center point 4 miles due East of New Boston, Ill., all points included in a 15-mile diameter from center point, including Mississippi next to Lake Odessa area in Iowa), Jan. 1; 6:45 a.m. to 5:15 p.m. Temp. 25-30; wind 5-15 m.p.h. from W. Cloudy-clear, 5 in. snow cover. Observers (11) in 4 parties: Bruce Bergstrom, Wendell Bergstrom, Allen Carlson, Elton Fawks, Theodore Greer, Richard Greer, Peter Petersen, Jr., Danny Marsh, Phillips Vaughan, Norman Ward, Jr., John C. White.

22. MUSCATINE (7½ mile radius of Lock and Dam 16, same as in previous years). Dec. 31; 6:30 a.m. to 5:15 p.m. Temp. 32-38; wind 0-8 m.p.h. from SW. O.C., ground covered by 5" drifted snow, river 75% ice covered. Observers (8) in 3 parties: Allan Carlson, Elton Fawks, Mike and W. M. Lonねcker, Mary Lou Petersen, Peter Petersen, Jr. (compiler), Phillip Vaughan, Norman Ward.

23. OGDEN (Roadsides, creek bottoms, and woods within 9 miles radius of my home; 7 miles by foot; 30 miles by car). Dec. 29; 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Temp. 10-30; wind 9 m.p.h. from East. Ground covered by snow, deep in spots; creeks frozen over; moderate weather. Observer: Jim Keenan.

24. OSKALOOSA (15-mile circle centered at Mahaska Co. Courthouse, including Lake Keomah State Park and South Skunk River bottom). Dec. 26; 7:45 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Temp. 5-24; wind 0-5 m.p.h. from NW. Clear, no snow on ground, no open water, all bayous dry due to lack of rain or snow. Observers (2) in 1 party: Keith Layton, Irene Layton.

25. SHENANDOAH (15-miles diameter circle, centered at Farragut, including Riverton and Shenandoah areas). Dec. 28; 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Temp. 17-15; wind 10-35 m.p.h. from NW. Eight inches new snow, rivers, streams frozen; blizzard condition part of day. Observers (7) in 3 parties; Mrs. Robert I. Bordner, Mrs. F. M. Braley (compiler), Don Burrichter, Mrs. Wallace DeLong, Mrs. Don Walters, Mrs. E. C. Vaughn and Mrs. Emmett Zollars.

Lincoln's Sparrows feeding in road with Tree Sparrows, Juncos and Harris' Sparrows on spot blown clear of snow. (R.B., F.B.)

26. SIOUX CITY (cemeteries, nursery, city parks, 3 lakes, roadsides and fields north, east and south of town). Dec. 26; 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Temp. 7-25; wind calm, clear weather, ground bare, Missouri River open. Observers (17) in 10 parties: Mrs. Helen Barrett, Mr. and Mrs. Jarvis Campbell, Mr. and Mrs. Lyle Graham, Mr. and Mrs. Darrell Hanna, Mr. and Mrs. William Hansen, Mr. and Mrs. A. D. Kirkpatrick, Mr. and Mrs. George Marsh, Robert Nicholson, Mr. and Mrs. Garland Roosa and Dr. Morgan Webb.

Brewer's blackbird observed at close range with binoculars and 20x scope

in excellent light for a period of 15-20 minutes by Mr. and Mrs. Darrell Hanna. Some of the females in the mixed flock of blackbirds had dark eyes. They were perched in some willow trees at the north end of Brower's Lake preening and resting.

27. UNION SLOUGH (All points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center 2,077 acre waterfowl refuge 5½ miles west of Titonka, Iowa; marsh and water 50%; upland grasslands, and mixed elm, cottonwood, willow, oak thickets 40%, croplands 10%). Dec. 21; 7:45 a.m. to 5:15 p.m. Temp. 26-36; wind 5 to 8 m.p.h. from NW. Ground free of snow. Refuge pools 100% ice covered. Observers (3) in 1 party: William Boyken, Al Buchanan and Paul Ferguson.

28. WAPSIPINICON RIVER VALLEY (Sec. 2, Mayfield Twp., Bremer Co. Iowa, to include all points within a 15 mile diameter circle, center, Big Woods west of Denver, Sweet Marsh Refuge, Seven Bridges Park, Plum Creek, river valley, farm lands 50%, woodlands 50%). Dec. 26; 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Temp. 6-22; wind 0-5 m.p.h. from NW. Sunshine—wispy cirrus clouds; no snow, ground frozen. Observers (8) in 1 party: Myrle M. Burk, Antoinette Camarata, Harriett Fairbanks, Ruth Halliday, Russell Hays, Charles Moon, John and Nick Osness.

29. WINTHROP (Roadsides north and south of Winthrop and a drive through Backbone State Park, also 2 areas on Wapsipinicon River, Buchanan and Delaware Counties). Dec. 26; 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Temp. 8 at start, 20 at return; no wind. Clear all day. Ground bare. Observers (5) in 1 party: Mr. and Mrs. Fred J. Pierce, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Pierce, Sandra Pierce.

The Swainson's Hawk was studied with 8x glass in flight in good light and quite near; the chestnut collar on the white breast was very distinct. This species is often seen in eastern Iowa during the summer, but very seldom in the winter.

30. YELLOW RIVER FOREST, (Center NE corner Sec. 8, T96N, R3W). Jan. 1; 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Temp. 23-27; wind 12-15 m.p.h. from W. Cloudy, 5 in. snow cover, most waters frozen. Observers (10) in 2 parties: Mrs. Florence Albright, Mr. and Mrs. R. W. Daubendiek, Darwin Koenig, Mrs. Merlin Koenig, Mr. and Mrs. Hjalmer Olson, Mr. and Mrs. Roy Schultz, Dennis Wigal.

Golden Eagle — (immature) we noted the dark wing linings, white patch at base of primaries and white tail with dark terminal band.

Canvasback — male, we noted the rusty red head and neck, sloping forehead, dark bill, black chest and tail, and white body.

#### ADDITIONAL BIRD NOTES WHICH ACCOMPANIED THE CENSUSES

Akron.—Rough-legged Hawk, Gray Partridge and Sparrow Hawk were seen during the census period.

Ames.—Rough-legged Hawk, Bobwhite and Purple Finch were also present in the period.

Burlington.—Other species in the period were, Carolina Wren, meadowlark (sp.), and Pine Siskin.

Cedar Falls.—The Snowy Owl had been in the vicinity for two weeks, and Mockingbird, Robin, and Cedar Waxwing were also present.

Cedar Rapids.—Gadwall, Short-eared Owl, Carolina Wren, Robin, Northern Shrike, 11 meadowlarks, and 24 Horned Larks were seen during the census period.

Davenport.—Ruddy Duck, Hooded Merganser, Marsh Hawk, and Lapland Longspur were also in the area during the period.

Des Moines.—Black Duck, Pintail, and Ring-necked Duck, were seen but not on the count day.

Dubuque.—Some 400-500 Common Mergansers were seen on 23 December before river froze above dam. Ruffed Grouse seen near John Deere on 17 and 23 December. Kingfisher, Mourning Dove, meadowlark, and Song Sparrow also seen in area.

Jefferson.—Other species—Redhead, Sparrow Hawk, and Purple Finch.

Jesup.—Brown Creeper, Long-eared Owl, and Barred Owl were present during the period.

Lamoni.—Golden-crowned Kinglet was seen during the period.

Ledges.—Cedar Waxwings were heard on count day, but could not be seen to be counted.

Ogden.—Another species during the period was the Northern Shrike.

Shenandoah.—Killdeer, Barred Owl, Kingfisher, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, Red-breasted Nuthatch, Golden-crowned Kinglet, Cedar Waxwing, Common Grackle and White-crowned Sparrow were also present during the period.

Sioux City.—Bobwhite, Horned Lark, Evening Grosbeak, Cedar Waxwing, and Red Crossbill were other species seen during the period.

Union Slough.—During the period there were also seen: Red-tailed Hawk, Mourning Dove, Screech Owl, Great Horned Owl, and Yellow-headed Blackbird.

Wapsipinicon River Valley.—Birds were scattered due to lack of snow and abundant feed.

Winthrop.—Due to the mild and open winter there were no concentrations of birds such as we have in severe winters.

George Crossley made the trip from Farley to Pine Hollow and the Forest Preserve on 2 January and recorded 846 individuals of 26 species as follows: Red-tailed Hawk, 9; Ruffed Grouse, 2; Common Snipe, 2; Great Horned Owl, 1; Barred Owl, 1; Red-bellied Woodpecker, 4; Red-headed Woodpecker, 4; Hairy Woodpecker, 2; Downy Woodpecker, 5; Horned Lark, 46; Blue Jay, 12; Crow, 15; Chickadee, 8; Titmouse, 7; White-breasted Nuthatch, 6; Winter Wren, 1; Starling, 99; House Sparrow, 374; meadowlark, 50; Rusty Blackbird, 1; Cardinal, 22; Goldfinch, 6; Vesper Sparrow, 1; Junco, 81; Tree Sparrow, 111; Song Sparrow, 4.

Mrs. J. B. Osher of Estherville wrote that the two days reserved for the census were two Iowa blizzard days. The period was over before the roads were cleared well enough to make a worthwhile count.

## IOWA BIRD BANDING SUMMARY FOR 1966

DEAN M. ROOSA  
GOLDFIELD, IOWA

Several of our previously active banders have moved from the state or have become inactive. However, our totals keep rising, due to increased activity of several banders and the occasional addition of new banders. This year we welcome Mr. and Mrs. Keith Layton, Oskaloosa, to our group. These folks banded over 1,000 birds in their first full year of banding. Also, Mrs. Donald Walters, Shenandoah, is becoming quite active as a subpermittee of Mrs. DeLong.

Perusal of the following list reveals many facts about migration through Iowa that are not readily available to non-banders. Some of the more interesting and energetic records must include the following events: A Painted Bunting by the Diggs, Stilt Sandpiper, Western Sandpiper, both by Petersen, Spotted Towhee by Diggs, another Summer Tanager by Ayres, more Blue Grosbeaks and Say's Phoebe by Petersen. Ayres continue to have a corner on the Purple Finch market (1032) as do Diggs with Tree Sparrows (1458) and Petersen with warblers.

Petersen again led all banders with 6134 individuals, Diggs were second with 3370 and Ayres a close third with 3041. Painted Bunting, Stilt and Western Sandpiper, Red-necked Grebe and Hooded Merganser made their first appearance on the Iowa bird banding summary.

Following is a list of banders and the number of species and individuals they banded in Iowa in 1966:

Judge and Mrs. Charles Ayres, Ottumwa .....	101	3041
Gladys Black, Pleasantville .....	42	440
Dr. Myrle Burk, Waterloo .....	49	243
Mrs. W. C. DeLong, Shenandoah .....	55	576
Mr. and Mrs. Fitzhugh Diggs, Hamburg .....	83	3370
Paul Ferguson, Union Slough, Titonka .....	10	687
Kenneth Formanek, Bellevue State Park .....	7	20
Iowa Conservation Commission, Des Moines .....	22	6376
Dr. Martin Grant, Cedar Falls .....	9	59
Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth D. Layton, Oskaloosa .....	78	1389
Rev. Kay Mills, Goldfield .....	19	80
Peter C. Petersen, Jr., Davenport .....	148	6134
Mr. and Mrs. Homer Rinehart, Marshalltown .....	86	958
Dean M. Roosa, Goldfield .....	13	160
Mrs. Donald Walters, sub-permittee of Mrs. DeLong .....	45	353
	174	17,451

Red-necked Grebe .....	1	Blue-winged Teal .....	3930
Eared Grebe .....	50	American Widgeon .....	1
Pied-billed Grebe .....	21	Shoveler .....	8
Double-crested Cormorant .....	9	Wood Duck .....	903
Green Heron .....	2	Redhead .....	39
Black-crowned Night Heron...	1	Ring-necked Duck .....	3
Canada Goose .....	61	Lesser Scaup .....	9
Mallard .....	504	Ruddy Duck .....	47
Gadwall .....	1	Hooded Merganser .....	1
Pintail .....	15	Sharp-shinned Hawk .....	19
Green-winged Teal .....	52	Cooper's Hawk .....	1

Red-tailed Hawk .....	38	Barn Swallow .....	134
Broad-winged Hawk .....	1	Cliff Swallow .....	4
Swainson's Hawk .....	15	Purple Martin .....	51
Rough-legged Hawk .....	1	Blue Jay .....	409
Sparrow Hawk .....	17	Common Crow .....	13
Bobwhite .....	15	Black-capped Chickadee .....	189
Virginia Rail .....	1	Tufted Titmouse .....	58
King Rail .....	5	White-breasted Nuthatch .....	38
Sora .....	2	Red-breasted Nuthatch .....	11
Common Gallinule .....	3	Brown Creeper .....	71
American Coot .....	50	House Wren .....	442
Killdeer .....	4	Winter Wren .....	23
American Woodcock .....	3	Bewick's Wren .....	1
Common Snipe .....	1	Long-billed Marsh Wren .....	2
Spotted Sandpiper .....	2	Mockingbird .....	3
Greater Yellowlegs .....	1	Catbird .....	570
Lesser Yellowlegs .....	3	Brown Thrasher .....	243
Pectoral Sandpiper .....	7	Robin .....	583
Least Sandpiper .....	18	Wood Thrush .....	19
Stilt Sandpiper .....	1	Hermit Thrush .....	59
Semipalmated Sandpiper .....	4	Swainson's Thrush .....	387
Western Sandpiper .....	1	Gray-cheeked Thrush .....	141
Mourning Dove .....	1441	Veery .....	45
Yellow-billed Cuckoo .....	8	Eastern Bluebird .....	449
Black-billed Cuckoo .....	8	Golden-crowned Kinglet .....	229
Screech Owl .....	14	Ruby-crowned Kinglet .....	833
Great Horned Owl .....	8	Cedar Waxwing .....	186
Barred Owl .....	5	Loggerhead Shrike .....	16
Long-eared Owl .....	2	Starling .....	51
Saw-whet Owl .....	11	White-eyed Vireo .....	1
Whip-poor-will .....	8	Bell's Vireo .....	5
Common Nighthawk .....	4	Yellow-throated Vireo .....	1
Chimney Swift .....	6	Solitary Vireo .....	39
Ruby-throated Hummingbird .....	11	Red-eyed Vireo .....	140
Belted Kingfisher .....	5	Philadelphia Vireo .....	20
Yellow-shafted Flicker .....	153	Warbling Vireo .....	12
Red-bellied Woodpecker .....	41	Black-and-white Warbler .....	60
Red-headed Woodpecker .....	38	Prothonotary Warbler .....	8
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker .....	23	Worm-eating Warbler .....	2
Hairy Woodpecker .....	35	Golden-winged Warbler .....	8
Downy Woodpecker .....	181	Blue-winged Warbler .....	4
Eastern Kingbird .....	27	Tennessee Warbler .....	244
Western Kingbird .....	4	Orange-crowned Warbler .....	142
Crested Flycatcher .....	26	Nashville Warbler .....	282
Eastern Phoebe .....	53	Parula Warbler .....	7
Say's Phoebe .....	12	Yellow Warbler .....	26
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher .....	53	Magnolia Warbler .....	126
Acadian Flycatcher .....	23	Cape May Warbler .....	18
Trail's Flycatcher .....	66	Black-throated Blue Warbler .....	1
Least Flycatcher .....	85	Myrtle Warbler .....	341
Epidonax Flycatcher .....	84	Black-throated Green Warbler .....	16
Eastern Wood Pewee .....	26	Blackburnian Warbler .....	9
Olive-sided Flycatcher .....	1	Chestnut-sided Warbler .....	41
Horned Lark .....	5	Bay-breasted Warbler .....	52
Tree Swallow .....	5	Black-poll Warbler .....	29
Bank Swallow .....	8	Pine Warbler .....	3

## SPRING MEETING AT AMES

13

Palm Warbler .....	9	Painted Bunting .....	1
Ovenbird .....	166	Dickcissel .....	40
Northern Waterthrush .....	103	Purple Finch .....	1112
Louisiana Waterthrush .....	1	Pine Siskin .....	36
Kentucky Warbler .....	10	American Goldfinch .....	612
Connecticut Warbler .....	11	Rufous-sided Towhee .....	11
Mourning Warbler .....	40	Savannah Sparrow .....	36
Yellowthroat .....	204	Grasshopper Sparrow .....	2
Yellow-breasted Chat .....	6	Henslow's Sparrow .....	3
Wilson's Warbler .....	86	Vesper Sparrow .....	1
Canada Warbler .....	38	Lark Sparrow .....	18
American Redstart .....	76	Slate-colored Junco .....	1288
House Sparrow .....	5	Tree Sparrow .....	1697
Eastern Meadowlark .....	10	Chipping Sparrow .....	49
Western Meadowlark .....	12	Clay-colored Sparrow .....	1
Red-winged Blackbird .....	155	Field Sparrow .....	52
Orchard Oriole .....	14	Harris' Sparrow .....	391
Baltimore Oriole .....	69	White-crowned Sparrow .....	23
Rusty Blackbird .....	33	White-throated Sparrow .....	579
Common Grackle .....	393	Fox Sparrow .....	258
Brown-headed Cowbird .....	37	Lincoln's Sparrow .....	173
Scarlet Tanager .....	13	Swamp Sparrow .....	59
Summer Tanager .....	1	Song Sparrow .....	203
Cardinal .....	205		
Rose-breasted Grosbeak .....	185	Total individuals .....	23,886
Blue Grosbeak .....	4	Total Species .....	183
Indigo Bunting .....	85		

## I.O.U. SPRING MEETING TO BE IN AMES

Reserve May 12, 13, and 14, 1967 for attending the 45th annual convention of the Iowa Ornithologists' Union at Ames, Iowa. Plans are well under way toward making this a memorable weekend. Dr. Milton Weller of the Iowa State University Department of Zoology heads the local arrangements.

Those who can arrive early will be welcomed at an informal reception Friday evening, May 12, to be held in the museum (basement of the Science Building) from 7:30 P.M. to 9:00 P.M. No official field trips are planned for Saturday morning, but Dr. Weller plans to have maps of the area available Friday evening for those who wish to "get an early bird" the following morning. There is an excellent warbler area adjacent to the campus just across Squaw Creek.

Registration will open Saturday morning at the Pioneer Room of the Memorial Union where morning and afternoon sessions will be held. The roster of speakers includes John Bowles of Penn College, "Birds of Kauai and Lehua, Hawaii"; John Faaborg and Frances Phillips "Population Study of Cliff Swallows in Central Iowa"; Steven Patterson, "Experiences with Bluebird Nest Boxes"; Peter C. Peterson and Bill Lonnecker, "Confusing Iowa Birds". Immediately following the afternoon paper session, the business meeting will be held with Miss Myra Willis, president, presiding. Saturday breakfast and luncheon will be available in the basement cafeteria of Memorial Union. Details for the banquet and early Sunday breakfast will accompany the information which will be mailed to members in mid-April. We are most fortunate to have Mr. Bill Lonnecker of Davenport as our banquet speaker. He will present and narrate a fine nature film which he has made. Field trips will be scheduled for early Sunday morning. A noon luncheon, species compilation and short final business meeting will culminate the weekend.—MRS. CHARLES AYRES, JR.



MOCKINGBIRD  
Sketch by E. W. Steffen

THE NORTHWARD ADVANCE IN RANGE OF THE  
MOCKINGBIRD (*MIMUS POLYGLOTTUS*) IN IOWA

1961 - 1965

RUTH SUMMY  
804 Jackson St.  
PLEASANTVILLE, IOWA

A survey conducted in cooperation with members of the Iowa Ornithologists Union.

My interest in the Mockingbird (*Mimus polyglottus*), a southern bird usually associated with dogwood, magnolias, and the Deep South, began in 1960 while doing observations to fulfill the requirements for a number of Girl Scout Proficiency Badges leading to the Curved Bar Rank.

Observations of Mockingbirds in five different locations during the summer of 1965 caused me to wonder if this increase might be statewide. I am a Junior member of the Iowa Ornithologists' Union so I first obtained permission from the President, Dr. Robert Vane, to ask all members for their Mockingbird observations covering a five year period, 1961 through 1965.

Double postcards requesting summer, winter, migrations and nest observations brought replies from 72 Iowa Ornithologists' Union members reporting no Mockingbirds and 54 reporting Mockingbirds at various seasons. This report is shown on Graph I.

These findings confirmed the belief that the Mockingbird is extending its range northward. Dr. Martin Grant in his comprehensive research through the ornithological literature of Iowa, the results published in "The Check-list of Iowa Birds" gives the status of *Mimus polyglottis* as an "uncommon summer resident" in southern Iowa and as a "rare extension of normal range" in northern Iowa.

Mr. William Youngworth and Mr. Eldon J. Bryant of the Akron and Sioux City area have found the Mockingbird to be a breeding bird nearly every summer since 1957. Prior to that Mr. Youngworth had records for 1942 and 1948 summers and a few earlier ones.

Mr. Woodward H. Brown in his article "Mockingbirds in Iowa" **I.B.L.** June, 1961, states that "Iowa Bird Life has printed 30 references to Mockingbird observations in the last ten years" distributed as follows:

#### Iowa Bird Life 1950-1960

Section of State	N.W.	N.C.	N.E.	W.C.	C.	E.C.	S.W.	S.C.	S.E.
No. of Reports	4 S.	1 S.	1 S.	0	1 S.	5 S.	1 W.	1 S.	4 S.
	2 W.	2 W.			3 W.	8 W.		1 W.	2 W.

In my search for last century and early twentieth century observations I found in DuMonts **A Revised List of Birds of Iowa** about 32 records from 20 counties covering 45 years between 1888 and 1933.

This northward trend is true of the entire United States. Mr. Aaron M. Bagg in **Audubon Field Notes**, August 1965, states "this species seems to be moving northward all the way from the Northern Rocky Mountains to the Northeastern Maritime regions." More banding data on the winter residents is much needed to determine if this is partly due to a northward wandering after the breeding season in the south.

Six other Carolinian species, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Tufted Titmouse, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, Carolina Wren, Prothonotory Warbler and Cardinal, have continued their northward advance in range during this century.

Locally our records, which were confined to Pleasant Grove Township, Marion County, Iowa, shows for 1960 one adult in Section 27, in 1961 one adult in Section 25, in 1962 two adults and three immatures in Section 14, in 1963 two adults in Section 14 and two adults and one immature in Section 25, in 1964 two adults in Section 14 and one adult in Section 16; in 1965 two adults and two immatures in Section 11, one adult and one immature in Section

## GRAPH I

Town	County	Observers	Years				
			1961	1962	1963	1964	1965
Agency	Wapello	1 1					
Akron	Plymouth	1				1S	1S
Ames	Story	1				1W	1M
Boone	Boone	1				2S	
Burlington	Des Moines	3			2W		3S
Cedar Falls	Black Hawk	1 1S		1M	1M		
Cedar Rapids	Linn	3 1S		1S1M	1S1M	1M	
Chariton	Lucas	1 2S		6S	3S	3S	2S
Clarinda	Page	1			2S1N	2S	4S
Davenport	Scott	3 30S		35S	25S	20S	20S3N
Decorah	Winneshiek	1					2S1N
Des Moines	Polk				2S1M	1S	1M
Diagonal	Ringgold	1 6S1N		5S	4S1W	6S	6S
Dyersville	Dubuque	1				2S1N	
Goldfield	Wright	1			1M	1M	
Grinnell	Poweshiek	1 1W					1S
Griswold	Cass	1			1S	2M	2S1N
Grundy Center	Grundy	1		1S			
Hamburg	Fremont	3 4M		3M	4M	4M	6M
Hull	Sioux	1				1S	
Humboldt	Humboldt	1				1S	
Indianola	Warren	1				1W	
	Madison	1					1W
Iowa City	Johnson	1 3W1S		1S1W	2S1N	3S1N	2S1N
Keokuk	Lee	1 1M		1M	1M	1M1W	1M
Kilduff	Appanoose	1		1S			
Lamoni	Decatur	1 2S1N		2S1W	2S1W	2S1W	
Madrid	Boone	1 1S				1S	
Marshalltown	Marshall	1					4S
Mason City	Cerro Gordo	1			1S	1S	
Moville	Woodbury	1 2S1N		3S			
Marion	Linn	1			4S	4S	
Oelwein	Fayette	1 1S			2S		
Oskaloosa	Mahaska	3		2S		1M	2S2M
Ottumwa	Wapello	4 2S		2S	6S	2S2M	4S1M
Pleasantville	Marion	2 2S		2S	5S	2S1M	16S6N
Shenandoah	Page	2 2S1N			4S1N	9S1N	5S1N
Sigourney	Keokuk	1					1S
Sidney	Fremont	1				1S	1S
Sibley	Osceola	1 1M				1N	2N
Perry	Des Moines	1 1S1W		2S1N	2S1W	2S1W	4S1W
Univ. Park	Mahaska	1					1M
Vinton	Benton	1 1S		1S			
Waterloo	Blackhawk	2 1W		1S			
Woodward	Dallas	1		1M			
Wheatland	Clinton	1 1M		1M		1S	
TOTAL		69		75	80	85	102

Legend—W-winter; S-summer; N-Nest; M-migrant

1888 through 1933

## Earlier Observations of Mockingbird

## GRAPH II

Year	Town	County	Season	Observer
1888	Burlington	Des Moines	W	Cooke
1888		Lee	N	(from DuMont 1933)
1889	Charles City	Floyd	S	Keyes & Williams
1894		Van Buren	S	
1894		Wayne	S	
1899		Warren	N	Jeffrey
1901	Sioux City	Woodbury	S	Guy Rich
1902	Sioux City	Woodbury	S	Guy Rich
1911		Wapello	S	Spiker
1911-12	Sioux City	Woodbury	N	A. W. Lindsay
1914	Maquoketa	Jackson	N	Ellis
1914	Martinsburg	Keokuk	N	
1922		Polk	M	A. T. Walson
1923	Fairfield	Jefferson	S	W. G. Ross
1923		Wapello	S	Spiker
1925	Mt. Pleasant	Henry	N	S. Parks & H. E. Jacques
1925	Sioux City	Woodbury	S	Spiker & Dales
1926	Dallas Center	Dallas	M	Mrs. E. L. Moser
1926	South English	Keokuk	N	
1927-29		Keokuk	S	Nauman
1928		Keokuk	S	J. B. Slate
1929	Grinnell	Poweshiek	S	Gard, Mack & Douglas
1929		Polk	S	
1929		Polk	S	
1929	Sigourney	Keokuk	N	Slate
1928-30	Stanton	Montgomery	N	Haskenson
1929	Valley Junction	Polk	N	Du Mont
1930	Vinton	Benton	S	W. L. Burk
1931	Cedar Rapids	Linn	S	Palas & Kubichek
1931	National	Clayton	S	Althea Sherman
1932	Des Moines	Polk	S	Du Mont
1932	Des Moines	Polk	W	
1932-33	Ogden	Boone	W	Rosene

Only 32 observations from 20 counties recorded in the 45 years from 1888 through 1933.

Legend—W-winter, S-summer, N-nest, M-migratory visitor

13; two adults in Section 14; four adults and seven nestlings in Section 26 and one adult in Section 16. These were all summer birds.

Mr. Bruce Stiles at the Vinton I.O.U. Convention told Mrs. Gladys Black that he had records of Mockingbirds in the Pella, (Marion County) area covering several years. Mrs. Black observed one at a nursery in Pella in 1963. Mrs. Black's mother, Mrs. J. M. Bowery, born and raised in the south, reported a nesting two miles south of Pleasantville in 1947. It would appear that Marion County has had breeding Mockingbirds for many years.

## GRAPH III

State or Province	Number of Locations
Nova Scotia .....	1
Ontario .....	10
Maine .....	1
New Hampshire .....	10
West New York .....	12
Michigan .....	1+
North Wisconsin .....	1+
North Minnesota .....	1+
Montana .....	1
East Massachusetts .....	1+
West Pennsylvania .....	1
Ohio .....	1+
Illinois .....	1+
Iowa .....	23+
Northern West Virginia .....	many

The Nation-wide Northward Advance in Range. 1965 Mockingbird Spring Migration. Audubon Field Notes August 1964-65 Mockingbird Observations in USA, Canada and the Maritime Provinces

The nesting studies during the summer of 1965 were pure pleasure because of the long sustained mimic songs, often two hours of continuous song in the evening. Two pairs nested in a shrubby pasture in Section 26 (60 acres of blue grass) having everything desirable to a Mockingbird, insects, nest sites, water, wild fruit of gooseberries, mulberries, red haws, multiflora rose, crabapples, wild cherry and Virginia creeper.

Pair I nested twice, the nests being located deep in cattle-pruned six foot red haw trees near the north end of the field. This first nest of Pair I constructed entirely of dead sticks and lined with grass and the nest contained four beautiful greenish-blue eggs splotched with brown.

The incubation time was thirteen days. The natal down was a grayish brown, not very dark, as Mrs. Gladys Black and Mrs. Ruth Binsfield observed these four on hatching day. Their mouth linings were very bright yellow and they appeared to be all mouth! Their growth was rapid, banded on the seventh day and although they didn't leave the nest until the thirteenth day, they could easily have left it as they were fully feathered and hopping around in the branches of the nest tree close to the nest on the eleventh day. The young left the nest on June 18 and on June 23 we were surprised to find the second nest just 25 feet north containing three eggs with the female already incubating. Only one egg hatched and this young was banded on July 6. Pair II had three eggs in their first nesting, producing two young, banded on June 17 and flying in nearby haw trees on June 23. We were unable to locate the second nest of this pair.

The fourth nest located some four miles north in Section 11 was a second nesting. It contained four eggs on June 26 but had been predated by an animal by June 28. The male and two immatures with dusky spots on their breasts were observed in nearby trees. Later they were seen feeding in mulberry trees in that field.

Another pair but no young were observed in Section 14 having returned April 26 and last observed in August. One adult and one immature were observed feeding in a mulberry tree June 26 in Section 13. One lone bird was observed in late May in the Pleasantville Cemetery in Section 16. Two

more were observed feeding on wild grapes in Section 2 in August but were probably the ones from Section 11 about  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile south.

The nesting pairs I and II had definite territories which they defended pugnaciously. The favorite sentinel post of the Pair I male was the top branch of a huge dead black walnut tree at least 200 feet from his nest. From this perch he swooped with white flashing wings at birds several times during our observations. Occasionally his attacks appeared wholly unnecessary, just a demonstration of "dive-bombing". The Loggerhead Shrike had a nest and five young at the extreme edge of the field. The Mockingbird and shrike had no encounters whatsoever while we watched—rather like respectful but non-speaking neighbors or an armed truce.

Mr. Philip A. DuMont was "mildly amused" that in a review of his 1933 book **A Revised List of the Birds of Iowa** wing (in the **Wilson Bulletin**) had chosen to throw out the records of Mockingbirds in Iowa because there were no Iowa specimens in our museums. As Mr. William Youngworth says "For credulity's sake have someone with you, or, better still, two somebodies to verify any rare findings."

Therefore I wish to list the following persons who in one or more years verified by sight observations Mrs. Black's and my identification of the Mockingbirds and their nests: Mrs. Ruth Binsfield, Mrs. G. Adolph Johnson, Mr. and Mrs. Russell Nicholson, Mr. and Mrs. Henry J. Kroeger, Mrs. Dwight Brooke, Mrs. Frank Eyerly, and Mr. and Mrs. Woodward H. Brown of Des Moines.

#### Conclusions:

1. That the Mockingbird is definitely extending its breeding range northward into Iowa, that this is also true nation wide.
2. That there is a northward migration in spring and a southward migration in fall although the Mockingbird is a permanent resident in most of his southern territory.
3. The favorable ecological conditions, pasture land with shrubs and small trees, wild fruits, and an abundance of insects are to be found in most areas of Iowa.
4. That the food supply in spring and early summer consists mainly of insects and is supplemented by wild fruit throughout summer and fall.
5. That two broods of young are produced each summer.
6. That nest predators are mainly raccoons and snakes.
7. A full clutch varies from two to five eggs.
8. Mockingbird song consists of phrases repeated three or more times and while many bird songs are mimicked the bird also has many original phrases.
9. Sustained singing is most pronounced during the breeding season; two full hours of song during an evening was not unusual.
10. Nesting territory is pugnaciously defended. However, the Mockingbirds were not as aggressive toward us during banding operations as the Brown Thrasher.
11. "Wing-flashing" was observed several times as the birds hunted insects on the ground both in 1962 and 1965.

#### Acknowledgments:

I wish to thank President Robert Vane and all the members of the Iowa Ornithologists' Union who responded with observations and words of encouragement. I am especially indebted to Mrs. Gladys Black who has directed my efforts in bird study for the past six years. The original drawing of

the Mockingbird by Mr. Earnest W. Steffen of Cedar Rapids was a gift to the author. For this I am deeply grateful.

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## FIELD REPORTS

The winter of 1966-67, up to 1 February, has been one of extremes of weather with periods of spring-like temperatures alternating with severe cold spells. Little or no snow fell in many areas until the end of December, and it was then unevenly distributed over the state with some parts experiencing blizzards and others having relatively little precipitation. The season might well be described as a winter of few northern visitors other than Snowy Owls.

**Geese, Ducks.** Reports of late Canada Geese mentioned 65 flying north near Ames on 10 December, (DP), 5 on 10 January at Cedar Rapids with a number of ducks, (CH), and 12 at Pleasant Valley on 17 December, (PP). The Mallard situation at Sioux City is described as a "population explosion". Warren Jensen reported 500,000 on the river at Elk Point on 13 December, and Mr. and Mrs. Hanna estimated 100,000 at De Soto Bend where there is a new National Wildlife Refuge. Several reports of late Redheads: 2 at Wyth Park 19 January, (KV); 1 at Goose Lake until 26 December, (JF); 2 at Cedar Rapids with a sprinkling of a number of other species, (CH).

**Hawks.** Reports of this group are mixed: none all winter, (GB); most of those seen have been Red-tailed and not too many of these, (DH); Red-tailed almost non-existent, (JK); but, some December trips showed more Red-tailed than any other year, (PL); seen rather frequently since 1 November, (DG); and population quite good, (PP). A Harlan's Hawk was seen north of Donahue, Scott Co. December 22 by Lewis Blevins (PP). Red-shouldered was seen on 10 December at Cedar Falls by Annette Haffner, (RH), and 2 on 27 January were the first in six months, (HM), though they are down even more and not seen all winter at Credit Island, (PP). Rough-legged: only 3 this winter, (JK); 2 on 20 January, (HM); and seem to have increased, (JF); with both phases seen rather frequently, (DG). Most of the Bald Eagles were seen along the Missouri or Mississippi with 25 said to have been at De Soto Bend the last week in December, (DH), and 30-40, which is more than last year, at Keokuk, (MS). Burlington had more than any other year, (PL), and at Davenport the population was holding at 35-50 with

immatures sharply up, (PP). At Bellevue on 25 January there were 5 adults and an immature was seen at Sweet Marsh in November, (RH). From Madrid near the Des Moines River L. M. Lanning reports 2 adults and an immature on 19 November. Marsh Hawks: several on 23 January were the first since fall, (HM), and they, and Sparrow Hawks, were thought not as abundant as in other winters, (DG).

**Bobwhites, Pheasants, Snipe.** Two good reports are that Bobwhite are most abundant in 20 years, (DG), and the population is up in southern Iowa, (MS). Pheasant reports were divided geographically: average, but down a bit from two excellent seasons, (EB); numbers reduced greatly, (DH); a little farther south; came through in good shape, (JK); more numerous than last year, (RK); and more than usual with 30 hens in one flock, (DG). Using a snowmobile, Paul Ferguson counted 1500-2000 in the standing corn at Union Slough on 21 January. A Snipe was at Ames on 12 January, (RK), and 2 at Grundy Center on the 2nd were seen by Glenn Bloomfield, (RH).

**Gulls, Doves.** A Glaucous Gull was present for a week in mid-December, (PP). The usual reports of wintering Mourning Doves were received.

**Owls.** A dead Barn Owl found in the barn on 8 January was possibly the owl seen flying the previous evening, (DG). Snowy Owls were mentioned by seven contributors: (DH, CH, HL, DG, RH, KV, JF). The 3 in the Cedar Falls area may include the one in the Hewitt report. The owl at Goose Lake near Jefferson was seen to capture a Coot. Long-eared were mentioned but once, (JF). Short-eared were seen daily from 26 October on, with as many as 8 at one time, (DG), and Mrs. Barlow saw 11 on 11 December, (RH), but they were thought scarce or only a few seen according to others. One explanation, Reservoir floods probably eliminated the rodents, (FK). A Saw-whet was wintering north of the Ames campus for the fourth consecutive year, (MS), and 1 was found the last week in January, (FK).

**Woodpeckers.** Wintering Flickers were mentioned, (GB, RH), and some have remained in Des Moines. Red-headed have been unusually numerous: never before in winter, (CW); first time in years and common, (JF). Other reports from (DP, RK, DG, MS). They are seen in Polk Co. also.

**Horned Larks, Jays, Crows.** Horned Larks: not many, (EB); very few, (DH), but present in good numbers, (PP), and abundant everywhere, (DG). Only a few Jays and Crows seen, (DH).

**Nuthatches, Creepers, Wrens.** Red-breasted Nuthatches have been very scarce: none, (DH, JK), only 1 at Jefferson in addition to the 3 on census day (JF), 1 for a few days in December, only, (PL), singles at two different feeder locations, (DG), and few at Des Moines. The only comment on Brown Creepers said "none", (JF). Reports of Winter Wrens were limited to 1 each, (HM, PL). A Carolina Wren is wintering, (PL).

**Mimics, Thrushes.** Mockingbirds were seen: on 14 November, (WM); 1 for a couple of months, (KV); and found sparingly near multiflora hedges, (DG). A Brown Thrasher is wintering, (GB), 1 was present for three weeks, (DG), and another was seen the last week of January by Ruth Holliday, (RH). Robins were numerous in November and December, (DP), and were thought scarce in Des Moines until January when 23 were seen eating crab-apples in a yard near the home of Mrs. Ruth Binsfield. Others are 1 at Jefferson, (JF), and 5 at Lamoni. One which appeared on 25 January was, from its appearance, thought possibly to be a migrant, (GB). A Hermit Thrush in Cedar Falls early in December might have been injured, (KV).

**Waxwings, Shrikes, Starlings.** Only 2 Bohemian Waxwings were mentioned; (GB, CW). Cedar Waxwings were thought definitely down, (RK). A Northern Shrike was seen on 8 January, (JF). Starlings were thought down at bit, (EB).

**House Sparrows, Icterids.** An interesting report says that in Sioux City they are still noticing the effects of a *Salmonella* outbreak which took so many House Sparrows last year. A number of people have few at feeders, (DH). Fred Kent commented that he had only 1 or 2 although there seemed plenty around the farms. Meadowlarks: were numerous in November and December, (DP); there seem to be a few more, (DH); and, in good numbers all winter, (DG). There were lots of Red-winged during the warm spell, (HM). A large flock of blackbirds on 26 December appeared to be 50/50 Rusties and Brewer's, which, while admittedly unusual, was arrived at by careful study, (DH). Rusty quite common with one flock of 25 and others seen along the river, (JF); 6 seen on 22 January and subsequently found feeding in sorghum, (HM); and 2 strays, (CW). A Brewer's on 27 January was thought very unusual, (EB), but 175 were near Ames on 16 December, (DP). A large flock of Grackles was seen at Brower's Lake on 8 January by the Davisons, (DH); they were numerous in November and December, (DP); a few wintering, (RK), while an observation on 21 January was a first winter record, (RM).

**Finches.** A rather late Dickcissel was seen on 27 September, (DH). A few Evening Grosbeaks appeared after a heavy snow on 27 December, (DH); Annette Haffner saw 1 in Iowa Falls on 15 January, (RH); a female has been feeding on crabapples in the Dwight Brooke's yard in Des Moines. Purple Finches: only one report of 2, (DH); fewer at Burlington, (PL); not seen until 15 December and fewer than last year, (HM); but, common all winter, (JF). In contrast to the invasion last winter, there has been but one report of Redpolls, that a flock on 26 December seen by Mrs. Miller, (RH). Pine Siskins likewise are scarce: very few, (DH); 1 at Annette Haffner's home, (RH); and 2 at Al Buchanan's feeder in Algona, (PF). All other reports say none seen. Goldfinches seem fewer than several years ago, (DH), but have been thought numerous by Des Moines observers. Red Crossbills were seen 26 October and 17 November, (WM); 10 were on the Ames campus through October and November, (DP); and 2 were seen north of Davenport on 12 November, (PP, PL). Vesper Sparrows were seen on 8 and 22 January, (JF). Juncos were in good numbers, (DH); the population down from the peak three years ago, (GB); and scarce, (PK). Tree Sparrows: numerous, (DH, JK); not quite as numerous this year, (PK, GB); few, but many last year, (CW). Harris' Sparrows: a few, (EB); fewer than last year, (JF); not too many, (DH); numerous in early fall while seldom seen in other years, (CW); common in Ames area, (DP). White-throated Sparrow, 1 wintering, (CW). Song Sparrows, numerous, (JF). Lapland Longspurs: with blizzard conditions on 7 January there were flocks of 200, 75, and 35, (CH); very common, with an estimated 1000 seen on a 60-mile trip on 8 January, (JF); at least 500 seen late in November, but not observed since December first, (DG). A mixed flock of 1-200 Horned Larks and Longspurs observed on 8 January by Albert Berkowitz. Snow Bunting: 1 was noticed in each of the Longspur flocks (CH), and 1 on 16 December near Backbone by Mrs. Barlow, (RH).

**Contributors:** Mrs. Gladys Black, Pleasantville; Eldon Bryant, Akron; John Faaborg, Jefferson; Paul Ferguson, Titonka; J. D. Gillaspey, Lamoni; Mrs. Darrell Hanna, Sioux City; Russell Hays, Waterloo, Clarisse Hewitt, Jesup; Jim Keenan, Ogden; Fred Kent, Iowa City; Richard Knight, Ames; Pearl Knoop, Marble Rock; Mrs. B. A. LaDoux, Spirit Lake; Peter Lowther, Burlington; Mrs. Wilma Mayberry, Wyoming; Howard McKinley, Russell; Ron Muilenburg, Webster City; Don Peterson, Ames; Peter C. Petersen, Jr., Davenport; Myron Swenson, Ames; Mrs. K. A. Velie, Cedar Falls; C. F. Wolden, Wallingford. WOODWARD H. BROWN, 4815 Ingersoll Ave., Des Moines, Iowa, 50312.

## GENERAL NOTES

**Summer Shorebird Migration at Union Slough National Wildlife Refuge—** It is quite interesting to follow the shorebird migration in Iowa. During the summer of 1965, weekly population estimates from 29 May to 3 September were made at Union Slough National Wildlife Refuge near Titonka, Iowa. Twenty-five species were recorded during the period with a peak population of 3,525 during the week of 24-30, July. These large numbers of shorebirds probably appeared due to the low water level which exposed extensive stretches of mudflats.

The most common shorebirds were the Lesser Yellowlegs, Pectoral Sandpiper, Solitary Sandpiper, Semipalmated Sandpiper, and the Killdeer, respectively. However, there were also large numbers of Spotted Sandpipers and Greater Yellowlegs. Several Dunlins and Stilt Sandpipers appeared in mid-summer and one Golden Plover was observed on 19 July. The Black-bellied Plover was more commonly seen in late summer. Other late summer visitors were the Baird's Sandpiper, Long-billed Dowitcher, White-rumped Sandpiper, and the Marbled Godwit. On 26 July, four American Avocets were observed but were gone the following day. On several occasions, Ring-billed Gulls, Forster's Terns, Common Terns, and Caspian Terns were observed. Large transient flocks of Franklin's Gulls were seen during July feeding in the corn fields on the refuge.

Killdeer, Common Snipe, Spotted Sandpipers, and Black Terns nested on the refuge. The Wilson's Phalarope was a summer resident and was frequently seen along the unmowed road-ditches. It has nested on the refuge in the past. No nest was located but young were seen in the area in August.

During the summer of 1966, very few mudflats were exposed and the summer shorebird population was low. The most interesting visitor was the Willet which appeared several times in mid-summer with the passing of low-pressure storm systems from the northwest.—DONALD PETERSON, ISU Station, Box 1021, Ames.

**Summer Goose Observations at Union Slough National Wildlife Refuge—** During the summers of 1965 and 1966, several goose observations at Union Slough National Wildlife Refuge near Titonka, Iowa, seem worthy of mention. A single Canada Goose was observed on 15-18 June, 1965, and a pair on 1-17 June, 1966. No nesting attempts were made, although Canada Geese have nested there in the past.

A late Snow Goose was observed on 6 June, 1966, and was flying south. A late Blue Goose was observed on 3 June, 1966, and was flying north. An adult White-fronted Goose was on the refuge when I arrived on 29 May, and left on 27 July, 1966.—DONALD PETERSON, ISU Station, Box 1021, Ames.

**Golden Eagle in Plymouth Co.—**On Oct. 27, 1966, Mr. Alva Rollins and myself were unloading shelled corn into the blower at one of my silos. We noticed a very large dark colored bird soaring in broad circles above the silo at a height of about 150 ft. I grabbed my binoculars from the glove compartment of my pickup truck. We noted the whitish tail with the dark sub-terminal band and some white in the wings of an otherwise very dark bird. The size indicated an eagle but at the time I supposed it to be an immature Bald Eagle in some sort of transition plumage. These are not rare here since they will occasionally fly the 70 miles from Lewis and Clark Lake behind Gavins Point Dam at Yankton, South Dakota. I checked these markings with those given by such printed authorities as Peterson, Bent, and Coues and was amazed to discover the eagle we had seen was an immature Golden Eagle, a species I had never expected to see in Iowa.—ELDON BRYANT, R.R. 1, Akron.

## IOWA BIRD LIFE—XXXVII, 1967 BOOK REVIEWS

**Population Studies of Birds**—David Lack—341p., 3 photographs, many line drawings, charts and tables—Oxford University Press, London and Fair Lawn, New Jersey—1966—\$10.10.

A collection of population studies chosen to illustrate the various theories of population dynamics. While none of the examples are drawn from work done in the United States, the species cover a varied group of birds from many parts of the world. All but one of the studies used represents at least four years of research and goes deeper than merely an annual census. Studies dealt with in detail in the author's earlier work, **The Natural Regulation of Animal Numbers**, are not included, and several of these are American studies. One of the primary aims of the author is to stimulate and guide new research into avian populations.

The specific examples of the various principals include studies of the Great Tit, Coal Tit, Pied Flycatcher, European Flycatcher, Tawny Owl, Quelea, Manakins, Wook Pigeon, Red Grouse, Ptarmigan, White Stork, Yellow-eyed Penguin, Kittiwake, Australian Mutton-bird, and Manx Shearwater. A concise conclusion summarizes major points brought out by the various studies. Lack covers the main points made in **The Natural Regulation of Animal Numbers** in an appendix, finishing with a discussion of the theoretical controversies concerning animal populations.

In addition to making interesting reading for the average amateur, this volume stimulates the reader to contribute to ornithological knowledge. College libraries should certainly have it available for students. ed.

**A Naturalist in Alaska**—Adolph Murie—314p., with many photographs and line drawings—Devin-Adair, New York—1961—\$6.50.

The author, a veteran naturalist, gives a vivid word picture of the ecological dynamics of one of the last frontiers of America. Having spent much time in Alaska over a long period he is especially well qualified to tell of the unspoiled interrelationships prior to the coming of a large population. tell of the unspoiled interrelationships prior to the coming of a large populations.

Murie devotes most of his major thoughts to mammals, but gulls are the primary subject of one chapter and frequent mention of common birds is made. It makes a good book for occasional browsing in addition to steady reading. Any school library would find it a valuable book. ed.

**Adventures with a Texas Naturalist**—Roy Bedichek—330p. with many line drawings—University of Texas Press, Austin—revised edition—1961—\$4.50.

Another book in the same vein as the book reviewed above. It deals much more with people and their relationships with animals than Murie's book. Each chapter reads almost like an independent essay. Birds are frequent subjects, especially Cliff Swallows, Inca Doves, Golden Eagles, Mockingbirds and herons. The style is very readable and much valuable information is included on wildlife. Bedichek had an interesting philosophy of nature and a unique literary style. This book provides a fine background on the Texas area. ed.

**Introducing Our Western Birds**—Matthew F. Vessel and Herbert Wong—72p. many color illustration by Ron King—Fearon Publishers, Palo Alto, California—1965—\$3.95.

A nice first book of birds for youngsters. Very colorful, with modernistic illustrations and an easy to follow text. Such aspects of bird biology as feathers, bills, feet, food, and nesting are covered. The fundamentals of identification are discussed, including behavior, voice, habitat, range, and seasonal status. Common birds are discussed and illustrated by habitat. The basic equipment for a field trip and suggestions of what to look for are included. Additional references for further study are given. This would make a good book for a western elementary school library or science room. ed.